

COMMUNICATIONS

There is in Mycenaean studies a new controversy, which has grown out of the latest meeting of the London Seminar and has attracted the attention of the press. It may seem more heated than it ought to be. Yet let it wax even stronger. For it does involve fundamental and important questions, among them the chronology of the habitation and destruction of the Palace at Knossos, the times and places of finding of individually identifiable Linear B tablets, and the date or dates at which they were inscribed.

The philological arguments for the comparative date of the language of Mycenaean Greeks at Knossos, Mycenae, and Pylos seen in different spellings or forms of the same words, if they can be distinguished from regional differences of dialect, and are not simply due to scribal variations in orthography, are not likely soon to be met with a uniform and generally accepted answer. Even then philological (i.e. linguistic) evidence properly bears little weight in archaeological arguments.

The history of the Palace at Knossos will be better tested by small supplementary excavations, which have been in progress for some time with this end in view, than by debate about the conduct of the original excavation. Still, the re-examination of the contemporary notes of the excavations will be of great help, and should by all means be undertaken, especially if the grounds for the inevitable discrepancies among the Day-Books, the Preliminary reports, and the final publication in the Palace of Minos can be discovered. Particularly valuable for Linear B studies would be the publication (perhaps in a few microfilm copies?) of those Day-Books in question. These might provide evidence for the determination of the find-spots of the tablets and for their original numeration. As it is now, any attempt to fix the identity of tablets found in this or that spot, with few exceptions, leads either to hopeless confusion or to a doubtful guess. Some tablets in the Iraklion Museum bear three or four different pencilled numbers, and are assigned other numbers in SM II. Such repeated changes in numerations, which can not often be traced, make the identification of tablets recorded as from particular find-spots (e.g. in SM II) unreliable, and leave serious doubts about the original groupings of many texts. It would be worth a great deal, even without a hint of the present controversy, to have available the best possible reconstruction of the record of discovery of the inscribed tablets from Minos' Palace, and of their subsequent fortunes.

Somewhat similar questions have been raised about the time and place of finding of certain tablets and fragments from Pylos in connection with an earlier controversy. Some indications may, of course, be found in the excavation reports, in the publications of the texts, and in other articles. But these indications are not sufficient, and a full record of all the steps from the discovery of the tablets, their numeration, their cleaning, their recording in photograph and copy, and the joining of their fragments to their publication is being prepared, and should be of some assistance in their interpretation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Chadwick, J., Lineare B: L'enigma della scrittura micenea (trans. by M. Lucantini, with "Aggiunta all' edizione italiana"), Torino (Einaudi) 1959, pp. 230.

Chadwick, J., L. R. Palmer, & L. J. D. Richardson (ed.), Studies in Mycenaean Inscriptions and Dialect V 1959, University of London Institute of Classical Studies, pp. 43.

Minutes of the London Mycenaean Seminar, June 1, 1960, 203-209:

Summary of a paper by L. R. Palmer, "The Knossos Tablets and Aegean Prehistory." Transcription of Pylos tablets of 1959.

"There was a lively discussion ...," which continued beyond these Minutes. Here were reported the comments of Miss D. H. F. Gray, J. Chadwick, G. L. Huxley, and R. Higgins. The Observer (London) for July 3, 1960 carried an article on its first page entitled "Knossos Findings Misrepresented: Archaeological Sensation," with comments by Jacquetta Hawkes, and on pp. 17 and 19 an article by L. R. Palmer, "The Truth about Knossos" (originally to have been "Minoans and Greeks"). The New York Times, July 4, reported the controversy on its front page. The Observer, July 10, carried letters by Miss D. H. F. Gray, R. W. Hamilton, E. G. Turner, M. I. Finley & G. S. Kirk, T. Lloyd; and a reply by L. R. Palmer. In VIMA (Athens), July 10, S. Marinatos and J. Papadimitriou reply to Palmer's article, (in VIMA, July 5-7). An article by N. Platon was announced for the following day. A B.B.C. broadcast by Jacquetta Hawkes on the subject is reported in the Listener, July 14. The Observer, July 17, carried a letter by J. Chadwick, and comments by L. R. Palmer. Of all these items generous correspondents have sent clippings; others report further repercussions in other papers, countries, and languages. Any other clippings will be gratefully received.

Åström, P., A Middle Cypriote Tomb from Galinoporni, Opuscula Atheniensi III (1960) 123-133 (Skrifter Utgivna av Svenska Institutet i Athen 4^o, VII).

Åström, P., Deux vases thériomorphes et une figurine de Chypre, Bulletin du Musée National Hongrois des Beaux-Arts 15 (1959) pp. 8.

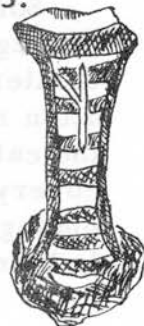
Deroy, L., Quelques témoignages onomastiques sur la pénétration égéenne en Europe occidentale au second millénaire avant Jesus-Christ, Revue Internationale d'Onomastique 12 (1960) 1-26.


Hamp, E. P., Notes on early Greek phonology, Glotta 38 (1960) 183-203.

1. Assibilated clusters in Proto-Greek. 2. On Mycenaean /h/. 3. Aeolisms and the Labio-velars. 4. Homeric $\pi\iota\nu\tau\acute{o}\varsigma$.
5. $\gamma\upsilon\nu\acute{\eta}$, $\beta\alpha\nu\acute{\alpha}$.

Hood, S., & P. de Jong, A Late Minoan III 'kitchen' at Makritikhos (Knossos) (Knossos Survey 90), Annual of the British School at Athens 53-54 (1958-9) 182-193.

There is an incised sign on the handle of a large stirrup vase.



- Hood, S., G. Huxley, & N. Sandars, A Minoan cemetery on Upper Gypsades (Knossos Survey 156), Annual of the British School at Athens 53-54 (1958-9) 194-262.
- Hood, S., A Minoan Shaft Grave on the slopes opposite the Temple Tomb (Knossos Survey 152), Annual of the British School at Athens 53-54 (1958-9) 281-282.
- Hood, S., A Minoan Shaft Grave in the bank with Hogarth's Tomb (Knossos Survey 16) Annual of the British School at Athens 53-54 (1958-9) 283-284.
- Hope Simpson, R., Nemesis: A Mycenaean settlement near the Menidi Tholos Tomb, Annual of the British School at Athens 53-54 (1958-9) 292-293.
- Karageorghis, V., Supplementary notes on the Mycenaean vases from the Swedish tombs at Enkomi, Opuscula Atheniensi III (1960) 135-153. (Skrifter Utgivna av Svenska Institutet i Athen 4^o, VII).
- Among the vases, chiefly of the pictorial style, are two with incised signs: Tomb 3/272  ; Tomb 7/II
- Kerényi, K., Griechische Miniaturen, Zurich (Rhein-Verlag) 1957, pp. 206. Pp. 95-126: Neues aus Alt-Kreta; Im Nestor-Palast von Pylos; Die Herrin des Labyrinths; Ankunft des Dionysos. An English translation is in prospect.
- Majewski, K., The genesis and development of the proskenion, Epitymbion Roman Haken, 1958, 92-95.
- The proskenion traced from the antecedents of Minoan palace-courtyards to Byzantine iconostases.
- Marinatos, S., 'Ανασκαφαὶ ἐν Πύλῳ, Πρακτικὰ τῆς ἐν Ἀθήναις Ἀρχαιολογικῆς Ἑταιρείας 1955 (1959) 245-255.
- Marinatos, S., La Sicilia e la Grecia nell' età preistorica, ΚΩΚΑΛΟΣ 5 (1959) 3-10.
- Neumann, G., Minoisch kikina "die Sykomorenefeige," Glotta 38 (1960) 181-186. Interpretation of Linear A HT 88.
- Pulgram, E., Linear B, Greek and the Greeks, Glotta 38 (1960) 171-181.
- A plea to keep separate the methods and materials of anthropology, archaeology, and linguistics in the reconstruction of the history of the Bronze Age in the Aegean.
- Ramat, P., Nuove prospettive per la soluzione del problema dei Μέρωρες di Cos., Atti dell' Accademia Toscana di Scienze e Lettere 'La Colombaria' 24 (1959-60) 131-157.
- The etymology and meaning of Μέρωρες including comparison with Mycenaean mo-ro-qa.
- Webster, T. B. L., Mycenaean Art and Literature (Summary), Iris (Melbourne) 45:2 (1959) pp. 2.
- Webster, T. B. L., Notes on the writing of early Greek poetry, Glotta 38 (1960) 251-263.

A survey of verse inscriptions of the archaic period to show how texts were actually written, and what account was taken of metre in recording, with the procedure followed in prose inscriptions taken as a check.

- Wright, G. E., Philistine Coffins and Mercenaries, The Biblical Archaeologist 22 (1950) 54-66.
- Bartoněk, A., Rev: Ventris & Chadwick, Documents in Mycenaean Greek, Sborník Prací Filosofické Fakulty Brněnské University 7 (1958) 145-148.
- Bartoněk, A., Rev: Bulletin, Institute of Classical Studies 1-4; BICS Supplementary Papers 1-4; Studies in Mycenaean Inscriptions and Dialect 1-2, Sborník Prací Filosofické Fakulty Brněnské University 7 (1958) 156-158.
- Bennett, E. L., Rev: Lejeune, Mémoires de philologie mycénienne I, Language 36 (1960) 137-142.
- Błaszczak, T., Rev: Ventris & Chadwick, Documents. Kwartalnik Historyczny 1 (1958) 203.
- Bloch, A., Rev: Chadwick, Linear-B. Die Entzifferung der mykenischen Schrift, Basler Nachrichten 13 Dec 1959.
- Combella, F. M., Rev: Jachmann, Der homerische Schiffskatalog und die Ilias, Classical Philology 55 (1960) 187-190.
- Germain, G., Rev: Jachmann, Schiffskatalog; Delebecque, Télémaque et la structure de l'Odysée, Revue Belge de Philologie 38 (1960) 74-78.
- Heubeck, A., Rev: Grumach, Minoika, Bibliotheca Orientalis 17 (1960) 17-19.
- Heubeck, A., Rev: Bennett, The Olive Oil Tablets of Pylos (PT 1955), Gymnasium 67 (1960) 248-249.
- Higgins, R. A., Rev: Chadwick, The Decipherment of Linear B, Journal of the British Archaeological Association 3.ser: 22 (1959) 74.
- Humm, R. J., Die Entzifferung von "Linear-B" (Rev: Chadwick, Entzifferung) Die Weltwoche, 22. Jan 1960 / Nr. 1367 p. 7.
- Jones, T. B., Rev: Page, History and the Homeric Iliad, The Historian 22 (1960) 312-313.
- Kullman, W., Rev: Webster, From Mycenae to Homer, Erasmus 12 (1959) 694-697.
- Masson, O., Rev: Cassola, La Ionia nel mondo miceneo, Revue de Philologie 34 (1960) 108-110.
- Safarewicz, J., Rev: Lejeune, Mémoires I., Bulletin de la Société Polonaise de Linguistique 18 (1959) 231-237.
- Schachermeyr, F., Rev: Cassola, Ionia, Gnomon 32 (1960) 207-213.
- Will, E., Rev: Sakellariou, La migration grecque en Ionie, Revue de Philologie 34 (1960) 105-108.